

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 10-35 are pending in this application. Claims 10-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. patent 5,480,048 to Kitamura et al. (herein "Kitamura"). That rejection is traversed by the present response as discussed next.

Each of independent claims 10 and 23 is amended to clarify features recited therein. The claim amendments set forth features previously discussed and argued as distinguishing over the applied art, and thereby applicants respectfully submit the claim amendments do not raise any issues that would preclude entry of the present response.

Independent claims 10 and 23 now recite bringing an insulating sheet "attached on a copper foil" into contact with the at least one conductor portion from above, and "pressing the copper foil with the insulating sheet...". The above features are clear from the original specification, see for examples Figures 2A-2C showing bringing an insulating sheet 16 attached on a copper foil 18 into contact with at least one conductor portion 14 from above and pressing such a copper foil 18 with the insulating sheet 16.

Claims 10 and 23 are directed to a device in which a conductor portion acts as a stopper in a pressing process so as to make a height of an insulating sheet equal to a height of a conductor portion.

In further detail, and with reference to Figures 2A-2C in the present specification as a non-limiting example, an insulating sheet 16 supported by a copper foil 18 is pressed into a conductor portion 14 from above (see Fig. 2A). The insulating sheet 16 on the copper foil 18 is pressed to a height of the conductor portion 16, and the conductor portion 14 can be used as a stopper to make the height of the insulating sheet 16 equal to the height of the conductor portion 14 (see Figs. 2B and 2C).

Applicants respectfully submit clearly the claimed features distinguish over Kitamura.

Kitamura is not directed to a device similar to the claimed features. In the claims as written, an insulating sheet formed on a copper foil is brought into contact with the conductor portion from above and is pressed thereinto using the conductor portion as a stopper.

Kitamura neither discloses nor suggests any such method in which an insulating sheet is attached to a copper foil, and such a combined structure is brought into contact with the conductor portion from above and then utilizing the conductor portion as a stopper.

The specific grounds for the outstanding rejection relies on Figures 15b-15d in Kitamura to correspond to the claimed features, indicating in that disclosure Kitamura discloses an insulating sheet 1504 brought into contact with at least one conductor portion from above. Applicants respectfully submit it is clear from those disclosures in Figures 15b-15d in Kitamura that the cited insulating element 1504 is not attached to a copper foil, and no copper foil with an insulating sheet is pressed to a height of at least one conductor portion using the at least one conductor portion, for example as a stopper.

Thereby, the claims as currently written are believed to clearly distinguish over Kitamura.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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